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## ABSTRACT

This manual presents recommended practices of the Council for Exceptional Children's Division for Early Childhood (DEC) for evaluating early intervention and early childhood special education programs. The DEC recommended practices are intended to complement previously established guidelines for developmentally appropriate practices. This guide includes the following: lists of the DEC recommended practices by strand, a program assessment form for each strand, planning forms, a case study utilizing the planning forms, and a glossary. Following an introductory chapter, individual chapters provide recommended practices in the following areas: (1) interdisciplinary models; (2) family-based practices; (3) assessment; (4) child-focused practices; (5) technology applications; (6) policies, procedures, and systems; and (7) personnel preparation. Reproducible planning forms and sample completed forms are also provided. (DB)

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